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Connecticut State Medical Society in support
House Bill 6025 An Act Allowing Medial Assistants To Administer Medication Under Supervision
Presented to the Public Health Committee
February 22, 2017

Senator Gerratana, Senator Bond-Somers, Representative Steinberg and members of the Public Health Committee, on behalf of the physicians and physicians in training of the Connecticut State Medical Society (CSMS) and the organizations listed below, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support **House Bill 6025 An Act Allowing Medial Assistants To Administer Medication Under Supervision**

The ability for certain, credentialed medical assistants to administer vaccines and other medications, was undertaken as part of a comprehensive process to review potential changes to scopes of practice established under Public Act 11-209. In 2012, CSMS actively participated in the process, along with representatives from several organizations with an interest in the issue. A final report on the process was submitted to this committee on February 1, 2013. We believe the final report offered information supporting a careful expansion of the role of the medical assistants in physician offices.

CSMS supports the ability to delegate the administration of certain forms of medication to medical assistants who are appropriately trained and have been credentialed by a nationally accredited organization. That said, while we support the intent of HB 6025, legislation should establish limitations and conditions under which such delegation can occur, and not change the level of supervision required for medical assistants. Currently, direct supervision of medical assistants is required in which the physician is present at the site in which the services are being provided.

At a time when we are collectively working to identify ways to increase access to quality healthcare to a rapidly increasing population of people seeking services, appropriate increased functions of medical assistants would afford physician practices the ability to provide services to a greater number of patients. More services could be provided in a shorter time period while maintaining the same high standards for care quality.

We welcome the opportunity to work with members of the committee to appropriately develop the language that should be contained in HB 6025.

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